

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4892

To repeal the Federal charter of the Boy Scouts of America.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 19, 2000

Ms. WOOLSEY (for herself, Mr. STARK, Ms. LEE, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. NADLER, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary

A BILL

To repeal the Federal charter of the Boy Scouts of America.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Scouting for All Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 The Congress finds the following:

7 (1) Federal charters are prestigious distinctions
8 awarded to organizations with a patriotic, charitable,
9 or educational purpose.

1 (2) Although intended as an honorific title, a
2 Federal charter implies Government support for
3 such organizations.

4 (3) In 1916, the Federal Government granted
5 a Federal charter to the Boy Scouts of America.

6 (4) Although the Boy Scouts of America pro-
7 motes the social and civic development of young boys
8 through mentoring, it also sets an example of intol-
9 erance through its discriminatory policy regarding
10 sexual orientation.

11 (5) Federal support for the Boy Scouts of
12 America indirectly supports the organization's policy
13 to exclude homosexuals.

14 (6) A policy of excluding homosexuals is con-
15 tradictory to the Federal Government's support for
16 diversity and tolerance and should not be condoned
17 as patriotic, charitable, or educational.

18 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF FEDERAL CHARTER OF BOY SCOUTS OF**
19 **AMERICA.**

20 (a) REPEAL.—Chapter 309 of title 36, United States
21 Code, which grants a Federal charter to the Boy Scouts
22 of America, is repealed.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the be-
2 ginning of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code, is
3 amended by striking the item relating to chapter 309.

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